

SERIAL STORY

HIS CHRISTMAS CAROL

BY ADELAIDE HAZELTINE

COPYRIGHT, 1941, NEA SERVICE, INC.

THE STORY: The terms of Andrew Dearborn's will specifying that his secretary, Carol, and five other employees, shall judge whether or not the playboy son Andy is running the business according to his father's policy...

CAROL—FIRED!

CHAPTER XIII

CAROL, holding the empty envelope which should have contained Mr. Dearborn's will, stood in the vault, puzzled beyond expression. Someone must have come to that ledger before her...

What if he had found the will, read it, been angry at its contents and decided to suppress it or destroy it? It would be no more than human for him to do so...

Back in her office, the phone interrupted her thoughts. She answered it. The switchboard girl said, "You're wanted in Mr. Herrick's office, Carol."

"I am? Why?" "Don't know, but you'd better hurry, honey. He roared in my ear like a foghorn lion!"

Carol found Mr. Herrick pacing his office very much like a caged beast. He whirled on her. "You! he growled. 'Who do you think you are? Manager of the store?'"

"Don't understand? I suppose you think you can get away with writing a check for \$500?" She sank into a chair. So that was it. Her palms pressed tightly together were cold and damp.

"Five hundred dollars!" he yelled. "And the bank was crazy enough to cash it. Lucky I checked our balance myself!"

"I— she began again. Her own voice sounded strange. "To an old lady I fired because her hand shook so hard she couldn't sign a sales check!"

personal memoranda. She would have to come back for it.

She could get another job in time. It wasn't that. But, out of the store, she could no longer stand between Mr. Herrick and the people. She would fail Mr. Dearborn. She would fail Andy, too.

Bill came that evening as soon as he heard the news. He was irate, urged her to let him go to Andy for her. He was loyal enough to believe that whatever she had done was for the good of the business.

She refused to let him interfere. "No, Bill. It's something Andy would never understand. You wouldn't let me intercede for you. You can't do it for me."

"Then you and Mary are going out to dinner with me," he said firmly. "You can't sit here and mope."

"Thanks, Bill." She grasped his hand affectionately. "I'm not up to it. You take Mary."

"But Carol— He looked at Mary and Carol saw anticipation in both faces. They couldn't hide their love any longer.

She had known since the night of the party. Mary had been unable to conceal it. Now she read it in Bill's eyes, too.

She was glad. Bill was genuine and deserved someone like Mary. Someone who really loved him.

"Nice going, Bill," she said gently. He searched her eyes before he answered. "Perfect," he said.

They went off happily together. Carol tried to read a magazine but too much had happened that day to let her mind find peace.

Her thoughts were torn between the memory of Mr. Herrick's angry words and the image of an envelope which could have settled everything had it not been empty!

Reluctantly, she answered the insistent ringing of her doorbell. She didn't want to see anyone. She wanted to be alone to think.

She hadn't expected to open the door to Andy Dearborn! (To Be Continued)

The vitality in a willow seed lasts but a single day. For this reason, it must fall on wet ground in order to grow.

The South African aard-vark, one of the last animals you'll ever think of, is always the first in the dictionary.

The stinger of a bee is about a hundred times finer than the finest needle.

NEED A SUIT RIGHT NOW? IF YOU DO, REMEMBER THAT YOUR CREDIT IS GOOD HERE! AS LONG AS 90 DAYS TO PAY OREGON WOOLEN STORE 8TH AND MAIN

THIS CURIOUS WORLD By William Ferguson

Illustration of a dog and a man. Text: GREAT DANES ARE MORE GERMAN THAN DANISH! IN THE U.S. THERE IS A FILLING STATION FOR EVERY 128 CAR OWNERS. ANSWER: Spoonfuls, keys, dormice, mongooses.

SILVER STATE

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for words like 'Depicted is', 'Japanese badger', 'Entertainer', etc.

OUT OUR WAY By J. R. Williams

Comic strip showing a man with a horse and a woman. Dialogue: 'I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE A-LAUGHIN' AT! I'LL ADMIT I LOOK LIKE A HOG HERDER AN' I'M A-GOIN' T' STAY THEATWAY, TILL COWBOYS SPEND MORE TIME IN TH' BRESH TRYIN' T' BE COWBOYS THAN IN CABARETS TRYIN' T' LOOK LIKE COWBOYS!'

RED RYDER

Comic strip showing a man in a cowboy hat. Dialogue: 'WE DON'T HAVE TO TRAVEL TO KENTUCKY TO CHECK ON COLONEL JULEP! WE'RE SENDIN' A TELEGRAPH MESSAGE.' 'HOW DO YOU TALK ON WIRE?' 'ME SAWY, OLL BETCHUM!'

LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE

Comic strip showing a man and a woman. Dialogue: 'SCHOOL'S JUST OUT—I'LL WAIT AND WALK HOME WITH ANNIE—HM-M—BORN AND RAISED IN THIS TOWN—USED TO KNOW EVERYONE BY HIS FIRST NAME--' 'THIRTY YEARS BRING CHANGES—CHILDREN I KNEW PARENTS NOW—MIDDLE-AGED—STRANGERS MOVED IN—HARDLY KNOW A SOUL—ALL THE KIDS ARE NEW TO ME—HM-M—WONDER WHO ANNIE'S FRIEND IS--'

BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES

Comic strip showing a man and a woman. Dialogue: 'JEFF! COME BACK HERE!' 'WHAT EVER YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO DO, YOU'RE NOT! I'M GOING FISHING.' 'OH, NO, YOU AGEN'T! DOCTORE BLACK SAID IT WAS UP TO ME TO SEE THAT YOU TOOK CARE OF YOURSELF--'

WASH TUBBS

Comic strip showing a man and a woman. Dialogue: 'OH, YOU USKA! YOU USKA! WONT YOU GIVE A SMILE TO ME?' 'MR. MADIGAN IS ENROUTE TO CHUMKING ON AN IMPORTANT MISSION, MISTER OLIVER—YOU'RE TO FLY HIM AS FAR AS BOMBAY, INDIA.' 'HUTZAH! THREE CHEERS! TOO BAD FOR YOU BLOKES! WHILE YOU'RE SINGING ABOUT USKA, I'LL BE IN RAS MAHOOT SEENING HER!'

FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS

Comic strip showing a man and a woman. Dialogue: 'BOY, YOU'RE GONNA CATCH IT THIS MORNIN!' 'BUZZ OFF, SMALL FRY! THE CONDEMNED MAN WOULD LIKE TO EAT HIS HEARTY BREAKFAST IN PEACE! THE GALLOWES CAN WAIT!' 'GOOD MORNIN, POP— I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU! BUT BEFORE YOU SPRING THE TRAP, MAY I SAY A WORD?' 'GO AHEAD!'

ALLEY OOP

Comic strip showing a man and a woman. Dialogue: 'ALL RIGHT, KING JOHN, NOW THAT I'VE TAKEN CARE OF WOPPO, YOU AN' ME ARE GONNA HAVE A LITTLE CON-FERENCE!' 'AWK! GO AWAY! LEGGO! TREASON!' 'COME OUTA THERE!' 'TREASON! IF THAT WORD DON'T CHORE YOU, THEN I KNOW WHERE THERE'S A ROPE THAT WILL!' 'OW-HHELP! ASSASSINS! I'M BEING MURDERED!'

OUR BOARDING HOUSE, with Major Hoopie

Comic strip showing a man and a woman. Dialogue: 'WE WANT TO TIP YOU OFF, JULIET— THERE'S A WILD ANIMAL IN THE HOUSE. IF JAKE HITS YOU FOR A LOAN, PRETEND YOU'RE HARD OF HEARING AND START TALKING ABOUT THE JAPS— HIS MEMORY IS FROST-BITTEN!' 'YEAH, WHEN HE GETS A BEAR TRAP FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN ALIKE!' 'THANKS— I'VE ALWAYS BEEN AN EASY TARGET FOR A TOUCH— MUST BE A SILLY STREAK I INHERITED FROM GRANDPA, WHO MADE A HOBBY OF FINANCING PERPETUAL MOTION INVENTORS!' 'THAT'S A BET I OVER-LOOKED!'

By Fred Harman

Comic strip showing a man and a woman. Dialogue: 'IT'LL BE WORTH IT IF I GET A STRAIGHT ANSWER FROM THAT KENTUCKY SHERIFF!' 'RED RYDER! HE'S DOUBTLESS INQUIRED BY WIRE CONCERNING THE EXISTENCE OF MY HORSE RANCH IN KENTUCKY— OH, MY!' '—AND I MUST PREVENT THE RETURN OF A CATASTROPHIC REPLY, INDEED— INDEED!'

By Harold Gray

Comic strip showing a man and a woman. Dialogue: 'OH HELLO— THIS IS LORETTA KNOB--' 'OH I KNOW YOU DOCTOR ZEE— MY MAMA KNEW YOU BEFORE YOU WENT AWAY--' 'IS THAT SO? ER— WHAT WAS YOUR MAMA'S NAME?' 'IT WAS KATIE MALT— SHE WAS A LITTLE GIRL WHEN YOU WENT AWAY— SHE USED TO LIVE NEAR YOU— WE— WE LIVE OVER BEYOND THE TRACKS NOW--' 'KATIE MALT! SURE, I REMEMBER YOUR MAMA— SHE WAS A MIGHTY PRETTY LITTLE GIRL--'

By Martin

Comic strip showing a man and a woman. Dialogue: 'JEFF! COME BACK HERE!' 'WHAT EVER YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO DO, YOU'RE NOT! I'M GOING FISHING.' 'OH, NO, YOU AGEN'T! DOCTORE BLACK SAID IT WAS UP TO ME TO SEE THAT YOU TOOK CARE OF YOURSELF--'

By Crane

Comic strip showing a man and a woman. Dialogue: 'EH? YOU NEVER HEARD OF LISKA! AMAZING! HAN, LISKA'S A BEAUTIFUL HALF-CASTE! WANT L YOU SEE HER— SHE DANCES AT THE HOTEL WHERE WE'LL SPEND THE NIGHT, AND WHAT I MEAN, SHE REALLY DANCES!'

By Blosser

Comic strip showing a man and a woman. Dialogue: 'WHEN YOU WERE A BOY, A GOOD TIME COULD BE HAD ON FIFTY CENTS! NOW KIDS GO OUT AND DESTROY TWENTY BUCKS!' 'WHAT IS THE MODERN GENERATION COMING TO?'

By V. T. Hamlin

Comic strip showing a man and a woman. Dialogue: 'OW-HHELP! ASSASSINS! I'M BEING MURDERED!' 'TREASON! IF THAT WORD DON'T CHORE YOU, THEN I KNOW WHERE THERE'S A ROPE THAT WILL!' 'OW-HHELP! ASSASSINS! I'M BEING MURDERED!'